

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A mat of fibrous media comprising: at least a first layered mat portion of selected first varied fiber size distribution therein, said varied fiber size distribution being through a thickness dimension of said first layered mat portion and resulting in a first varying permeability within said thickness of said first layered mat portion wherein said first varying permeability increases in said thickness direction through said first layered mat portion and having a first varying gradient density within the first layered mat portion, wherein said first gradient density increases in a thickness direction through said first layered mat portion and at least a second layered mat portion of selected second varied fiber size distribution through a thickness of said second layered mat portion, said varied fiber size distribution and a second varying gradient density in said second layered mat portion resulting in a second varied permeability wherein said second permeability increases in said thickness direction through said second layered mat portion and wherein said permeability of said first layer is less than said permeability of said second layer, each of said first layered mat portion and said second layered mat portion being formed on first and second drum collectors respectively, said layered mat portions being collected from said drum collectors in a direction which is generally perpendicular to a rotational axis of said drum collectors, both said first and second layered mat portions being of substantially aligned fibers of first and second selected varied fiber size distributions and varied permeability with each being attenuated as layers from spaced orifice sources directly to separate, spaced

21 collector, one of such sources receiving said layered mat portion from the other
22 immediately preceding spaced collector source.

1 Claim 23 (Original): The mat of fibrous media of Claim 22, wherein said first
2 and second layered mat portions are combined in an interspersed manner.

1 Claim 24 (Original): The mat of fibrous media of Claim 22, wherein said first
2 and second layered mat portions are combined in a successive manner.

1 Claim 25 (Original): The mat of fibrous media of Claim 22, wherein at least one
2 portion of said layered portions is a product of turbulently entangled fibers with varied
3 fiber size distribution.

1 Claim 26 (Original): The mat of fibrous media of Claim 22, wherein said fibers
2 of said first layered portion are of melt blown composition and said fibers of said second
3 layered portion are of melt blown composition.

1 Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The mat of fibrous media of Claim 22, wherein
2 said fibers of said first layered portion are of a varied size distribution in the approximate
3 range of zero point one (0.1) to twenty seven (27) micrometers and said second layered
4 portion are of a varied fiber size distribution in the approximate range of one (1) to fifty
5 (50) micrometers.

1 Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The mat of fibrous media of Claim 23, wherein
2 said fibers of said first layered portion have a varied permeability range varying within
3 the approximate range of five (5) to two thousand (2000) cubic feet per minute per square
4 foot (cfm/ft²) permeability and said fibers of said second layers have a varied
5 permeability range varying within the approximate range of thirty (30) to four thousand
6 (4000) cubic feet per minute per square foot (cfm/ft²) permeability.

1 Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A mat of fibrous filter media comprising: at least
2 a first layered filter media mat portion of synthetic melt blown composition with
3 approximate first varied fiber size distributions increasing through a thickness dimension
4 of said first layered mat portion, said first layered mat portion further comprising a
5 varying gradient density increasing in said thickness dimension and varying permeability,
6 said fiber size distribution of said first layered mat portion varying within the
7 approximate range of zero point one (0.1) to twenty seven (27) micrometers and an
8 increasing permeability within said first layered mat portion varying within the
9 approximate range of five (5) to two thousand (2000) cubic feet per minute (cfm/ft²) and,
10 a second successive layered filter media mat portion of synthetic melt blown composition
11 with a second varied fiber size distributions within said second layered mat portion and
12 further comprising varying gradient density and permeability with said second layered
13 mat portion, said varied fiber size distribution and gradient density increasing in said
14 thickness dimension of said second mat portion, said fiber size distributions varying
15 within the approximate range of one (1) to fifty (50) micrometers and increasing
16 permeability within the approximate range of thirty (30) to four thousand (4000) cubic
17 feet per minute per square foot (cfm/ft²), wherein said increasing permeability of said
18 first layer is less than said increasing permeability of said second layer and each layered
19 portion having been attenuated as layers from selectively spaced melt blown orifice
20 sources to separate spaced rotating collector sources with one of such sources receiving
21 said layered mat portion from the other immediately preceding collector source[.], said
22 first layered mat portion and said second layered mat portion formed on first and second
23 said collector sources respectively, each of said first and second collector sources having

24 a rotational axis, wherein said first and second mat portions are collected from said first
25 and second collector sources in a direction which is generally tangent to a rotational
26 surface of each of said collector sources.

1 Claims 30-32 (Canceled):

1 Claim 33. (Currently Amended): A fibrous filter media comprising a plurality of
2 fibrous layers, said plurality of fibrous layers having a first and second fibrous layer, said
3 first fibrous layer having a first varied fiber size distribution and first increasing
4 permeability through a thickness dimension of said first layer and first varied porosity
5 and varied gradient density within said first layer and increasing through said thickness
6 dimension of said first fibrous layer, said second fibrous layer having a second varied
7 fiber size distribution and second increasing permeability within said second layer and
8 second varied porosity and varied gradient density within said second layer increasing
9 through said thickness dimension, said first and said second fibrous layers each being
10 attenuated as layers from spaced orifice sources directly to separate, spaced rotating
11 collector sources with one of such sources receiving said layered mat portion from the
12 other immediately preceding spaced rotating collector source forming a mat of fibrous
13 media[[]], said spaced collector sources comprising a first collector source and a second
14 collector source, said first and second collector sources each having a rotation axis, said
15 rotation axes being generally perpendicular to the direction of collection of said first
16 fibrous layer and said second fibrous layer.

1 Claim 34. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33 wherein
2 said first fiber size varies within a range within the range of approximately 0.1 to 27
3 micrometers.

1 Claim 35. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said first porosity varies within in a range within the range of approximately 5 to
3 2000 cfm/ft².

1 Claim 36. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said second fiber size varies within in a range within the range of approximately
3 1 to 50 micrometers.

1 Claim 37. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said second porosity varies within in a range within the range of approximately
3 30 to 4000 cfm/ft².

1 Claim 38. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said plurality of fibrous layers have a synthetic composition.

1 Claim 39. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said plurality of fibrous layers has a third fibrous layer adjacent said second
3 fibrous layer and having a third varied fiber size distribution and third varied porosity,
4 said third varied fiber size distribution being substantially similar to said second varied
5 fiber size distribution and said third varied porosity being substantially similar to said
6 second varied porosity.

1 Claim 40. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein at least one of said plurality of fibrous layers has a portion of the fibers having
3 been curled and entangled.

1 Claim 41. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said first varied fiber size distribution range is smaller than said second varied
3 fiber size distribution range.

1 Claim 42. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said first fibrous layer has a smooth surface opposite said second fibrous layer,
3 said first varied fiber size distribution range being less than said second varied fiber size
4 distribution range.

1 Claim 43. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said first fibrous layer has a smooth surface opposite said second fibrous layer,
3 said second fibrous layer having curled and entangled fibers with a greater size
4 distribution range than said first varied fiber size distribution range.

1 Claim 44. (Previously Presented): The fibrous filter media of Claim 33
2 wherein said first fibrous layer has a smooth surface opposite said second fibrous layer,
3 said second fibrous layer having a greater varied fiber size distribution range than said
4 first varied fiber size distribution range, said second fibrous layer having a smooth
5 surface opposite said first fibrous layer.